

## A BRITISH KICK

On the Letting of Contracts to American Firms.

## AMERICANS DO BETTER WORK.

English Manufacturers Finally Discover Why we are Successful in Competition in the Industrial Market—The London Press Urging British Manufacturers to Action.

(Copyright, 1899, by Associated Press.) LONDON, April 9.—America's successful competition in the industrial market, where she is beating the British on their own ground, is undoubtedly causing deep concern and heartburnings in British engineering circles. The acrimonious protests of English firms respecting the awarding of the Alhambra bridge contract to a Philadelphia firm brought out clearly this feeling, and the attempts to explain America's success by glut of work here do not harmonize with the complaints from English firms who have not received orders which have been sent to America. As the "St. James Gazette" puts it: "If the British manufacturers have so much work that they cannot accept contracts they are to be congratulated. But in that case it is difficult to see why they are complaining."

The fact is that industrial circles here recognize that these contracts mean more than mere evanescent competition, as in the case of America engines the railroad authorities here have conceived the highest opinion of American work. This is born out by the statement of Manager Snell, of the locomotive department of the Great Northern Railway, which recently ordered engines from America. He said: "Apart from the fact that American builders are able to make more speedy delivery than the English, there is no doubt whatever that American engines are of the highest excellence, and their present features and improvements are of such utility as to attract the custom of English companies."

The Daily Mail, taking up the question, urges a system of profit-sharing, with the newest and best machinery, as the method "whereby Americans can be fought and worsted," though the paper adds: "We must own that the nation is in some degree suffering from the lack of strenuousness both in employers and employees."

The correspondent has had a conversation with the secretary of the engineer's society, and his statements bear out the impression that considerable apprehension is felt here at the prospect of an American industrial invasion. He said: "We certainly regret the transference of work essentially belonging to our market, and it would be affecting to deny there is indignation and much comment on the state of affairs. We hope it will prove only temporary transference, but you know the danger."

Inquiries made regarding the Belgian syndicate, which is about to send a party of engineers to study the construction of a railroad between Manila and Batangas, south of the Bay of Manila, show the district has already been surveyed five times. The work was considered impracticable under the Spanish regime. The Spanish government made offers to the construction of the line, but there was no response from any quarter, as the petty exactions and interference of the Spanish authorities rendered the enterprise most difficult. The prospects, naturally, have changed under the American administration, and the Manila Railroad Company has been partly promised that the United States authorities would take over the existing railroads and exploit them on the German state system. In any case the railroad company expects to be fully indemnified for its losses in consequence of the war, though an enormous leap in business is inevitable as soon as tranquility is restored.

## A WOMAN'S WIT.

How Ireland was Once Saved by a Pack of Cards—A Story of the Days of Queen Mary.

In the year 1557 Queen Mary, at the instance of Dr. Cole, issued a commission ordering immediate prosecution of the Protestants of Ireland, says Lloyd's Weekly Newspaper. The commission duly signed by the queen, was to be carried by Dr. Cole himself, and, overjoyed by his trust—for he was a relentless prosecutor, hated by Catholics and Protestants alike—he set off on December 15, 1557, promising "a merry Christmas to Irish heretics." On the way he had to stop one night at Chester, where he found lodgings in the house of a Mrs. Edmunds. As queen's messenger and a churchman of distinction, he was visited by the mayor of the city, to whom a brother-in-law said: "Here is a commission that shall lash the heretics," at the same time drawing a box out of his cloak-bag and displaying the small square parcel the commission formed.

Now, it chanced that the landlady heard what was said, and as she was a Protestant, she was not a bit daunted. Not long before she had been rating her son for gambling, and had taken from him a pack of cards of which he was the proud possessor. The size of the packet produced to the mayor by Dr. Cole was a good deal smaller than the pack of cards, and gave the good woman an idea of how she might render the prosecutor's journey futile. Her chance came when the mayor left, and Dr. Cole, with great ceremony, attended him downstairs to the door to take leave. She quickly seized the box, which was locked, and put the key in the lock, and then she put the commission in her pocket.

When the doctor came back to the room he had no suspicion of what had happened, and put the box again into his cloakings, and next morning set forth on his journey. He arrived in Dublin on boxing day, and, having notified his arrival at the castle, Lord Deputy Fitz-Walters summoned the private counsel to hear Dr. Cole's mission. The doctor made a long speech, in which he explained the object of his coming, and then presented the leather box with its contents to the lord deputy. When the deputy opened it for the secretary to read the commission, his surprise and Dr. Cole's confusion may be imagined when nothing came out of the box but a pack of playing cards, with the knave of clubs uppermost. The doctor assured the lord deputy and the counsel that he had a commission, but knew not how or where it could be gone. "Then," said Fitz-Walters, "you go back for another commission, and as they did me the cards in the meanwhile." The doctor withdrew in great trouble of mind, and eventually made his way back to England. Here he was soundly rated and abused, and not until October, 1558, did he get his fresh commission. With this, however, he dallied some time before starting, as he was about to sail Mary's death made it null and void.

That is how, at Christmas time, a pack of cards saved Ireland from the trouble of persecution, and why the knave of clubs was for a long time

known as "Ireland's friend." Elizabeth Edmonds, who burned the commission, was soon afterward married to a man named Mathershead, and Queen Elizabeth, summoning the two to court, gave them a pension of £40 a year for "trumping the trick of the enemy."

Man's Wife Sues Him for Wages. Youth's Companion: An extremely interesting case has lately been decided by the Indiana supreme court, establishing a new principle regarding the rights of a wife. A man in that state who kept a shoe store employed his wife as a saleswoman, and paid her weekly wages, which she saved and invested.

When his business declined he borrowed her money, and also failed to pay her wages. Then he became bankrupt. His wife presented her claim as one of the creditors, for the borrowed money and a year's unpaid wages. In the old times the claim would have been thrown out at once. The theory of the common law gave the wife no right against her husband. Her property was his. She could not testify for or against him in court in any case, civil or criminal. There could be no valid contract between the two for the payment of money.

The situation has been greatly improved by statute and by the common sense decisions of modern jurists. One of the last of the ancient disabilities of the wife is removed by the Indiana decision. The court holds that an agreement to pay wages for services of a domestic character would not stand. It would be against public policy that a man should—by promising to pay his wife, for washing the dishes and for sewing on his buttons—withdraw money from his ordinary creditors.

But the wife was under no obligations to become a saleswoman for her husband. He paid—or rather did not pay—to her what he would have had to

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## AN IMPORTANT SUIT.

Involving the Interests of Morgantown Citizens and Professors. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., April 9.—There is much concern manifested here over the suit brought in the United States district court by William M. Carr and others against the Battelle Oil Company. Notice was served yesterday on the defendants restraining C. W. Huston from further developing the property and the injunction order ties up at least one hundred thousand dollars worth of oil property in this county. A great number of the citizens of the town and several professors of the uni-

## MORGANTOWN MATTERS.

Inter-Collegiate Oratorical Contest. Judge Berkshire's Ripe old Age. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MORGANTOWN, W. Va., April 9.—The contest between the Columbian and Parthenon literary societies of the West Virginia University, for the privilege of representing the university in the inter-collegiate oratorical contest, took place last night in commencement hall, and, as usual furnished occasion for a display of society and fraternity spirit. Each one of them was largely reported and their adherents kept up a continual cheering for their favorites. The judges were: Hon. John W. Mason, of Fairmont, and Rev. Dr. S. V. Leach and Rev. Mr. Winecoff, of Morgantown. There were six contestants, John H. Hatcher, Samuel T. Spears, Ward B. Lindsay, Francis A. Hauber, Frank L. Bowman and James C. Frazer. Mr. Spears, one of the representatives of the Columbian society, was awarded the honor and Mr. Frazer, also a Columbian society man, was given the honor of alternative.

Prof. A. D. Hopkins, entomologist at the West Virginia agricultural experimental station, left to-day on a mission for the United States government, which will last three months. At the instance of the department of agriculture, he will investigate the forests of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, with a view to destroying some pestiferous insects which are injuring the trees in those states. Many of the most expensive of the woods, notably the red wood, are being destroyed by these insects. Dr. Hopkins' success in finding a bug which would feed on the pine tree beetle gave him high standing before the division of entomology in the department of agriculture and led to his selection for this work.

Judge R. L. Berkshire, of this place, celebrated his eighty-third birthday yesterday and was the recipient of many congratulations. He is still an active figure about town, but has given up the practice of his profession.

## Fairmont Normal School.

Special Correspondence of Intelligencer.

FAIRMONT, W. Va., April 8.—The spring term of the Fairmont normal school opened March 21, under circumstances most favorable.

The repairs of the damages made by the fire of last winter are nearing completion, and the improvements that the fire made possible are very decided. The Auditorium now has an inclined floor; some of the rooms have been newly papered, others have had their walls kalsomined; the library has been beautified by a metal ceiling, and the most attractive decoration is the new books on fiction, history, poetry and science that are being placed upon the shelves.

There are now nearly two hundred and seventy-five students enrolled and new ones arriving every day. Never in the history of the school, has there been a more earnest body of young men and women.

## Race Riot in Hawaii.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 7.—The Associated Press representative at Honolulu sends an account of a racial battle between the Japanese and Chinese laborers on the Kahuku plantation, March 25. The Japanese wielded spiked clubs, knives and axes. Three of the Chinese were killed, a dozen seriously wounded, some fatally, and about forty slightly injured. A squad of police were sent to the plantation from Honolulu and martial law has been declared.

## Missed his Footing.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., April 7.—Allen L. Dalrymple, assistant superintendent in the railway mail service, was instantly killed by a train at the Union station last night. Mr. Dalrymple was attempting to board an outgoing Frisco train, but missed his footing, and fell under the wheels. He was about to start on a tour of inspection in the of age, and a native of Alabama.

## Dollar Dinner Orators.

NEW YORK, April 7.—Eugene V. Brewster announced to-day the list of speakers for the Chicago platform dinner at the Grand Central Palace April 15. The list includes William J. Bryan, Supreme Court Justice William J. Gaynor, of Brooklyn; Jerome O'Neill, the labor man; George Fred Williams, of Massachusetts; Charles A. Towne and John F. Crosby.

## Murdered and Robbed.

CHICAGO, April 7.—George B. Fern, dealer in dry goods at No. 1353 West Madison street, was found dead on the floor of his store to-day, with a bullet wound in his right temple. The cash drawers were rifled, and Mr. Fern's pockets turned inside out.

I WAS reading an advertisement of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the Worcester Enterprise recently, which leads me to write this. I can truthfully say I never used any remedy equal to it for colic and diarrhoea. I have never had to use more than one or two doses to cure the worst case with myself or children.—W. A. Stroud, Popomoke City, Md. For sale by druggists.

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There is not the slightest doubt that the doctors do more harm than good in treating Contagious Blood Poison; many victims of this loathsome disease would be much better off to-day if they had never allowed themselves to be dosed on mercury and potash, the only remedies which the doctors ever give for blood poison.

The doctors are wholly unable to get rid of this vile poison, and only attempt to heal up the outward appearance of the disease—the sores and eruptions. This they do by driving the poison into the system, and endeavor to keep it shut in with their constant doses of potash and mercury. The mouth and throat and other delicate parts then break out into sores, and the fight is continued indefinitely, the drugs doing the system more damage than the disease itself.

Mr. H. L. Myers, 100 Mulberry St., Newark, N. J., says: "I had spent a hundred dollars with the doctors, when I realized that they could do me no good. I had large spots all over my body, and these soon broke out into running sores, and I endured all the suffering which this vile disease produces. I decided to try S. S. S. as a last resort, and was soon greatly improved. I followed closely your 'Directions for Self-Treatment,' and the large spots on my chest began to grow paler and smaller, and before long disappeared entirely. I was soon cured perfectly and my skin has been as clear as glass ever since. I cured myself at home after the doctors had failed completely." It is valuable time thrown away to expect the doctors to cure Contagious Blood Poison, for the disease is beyond their skill. Swifts Specific—

## S. S. S. FOR THE BLOOD

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